$2M Cummings gift honors former teacher, state rep. Carol Donovan

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$2M Cummings gift honors former teacher, state rep. Carol Donovan. COURTESY PHOTO/CUMMINGS FOUNDATION

The following was submitted by the Cummings Foundation:

Winchester residents Joyce and Bill Cummings' self-named Cum Foundation has pledged $2 million to Regis College. This gift will fund the

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Carol A. Donovan Endowed Dean of Nursing as well as a future health care clinic in the neighboring city of Woburn.

A 1959 Regis alumna, Donovan taught in the Woburn Public Schools system for 31 years before serving her first of seven terms in Massachusetts House of Representatives. She has remained active in the local community and was recently appointed to Governor Healey's administration as a Woburn Housing Authority commissioner.

Donovan became a trustee of the New Horizons at Choate senior living community in 1995. After a 2002 restructuring, she transferred to the Cummings Foundation board. With a combined 28 years of service, she is the Foundation's longest serving non-family trustee.

"Carol's exceptional leadership and unwavering dedication to the people of Massachusetts shine brightly through her years of service, which commenced at Regis College," said Cummings Foundation co-founder Bill Cummings. "We are honored to recognize her commitment to both the Commonwealth and the Foundation with this investment in the next generation of health care professionals."

"I have seen the Cummings' generosity and wonderful work firsthand over many years—both in Woburn and in the broader community," said Donovan. "I am honored they would think of me for this special named gift."

Amid a regional and nationwide nursing shortage, enrollment in Regis College's Young Nursing School has grown by approximately 170% since 2011. The $2 million gift in Donovan's honor will support the Regis endowment and establish a Regis clinic in Woburn, where students will gain hands-on clinical experience while also serving the greater Winchester region.

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"This generous gift and incredible partnership with Cummings Foundation will enable Regis to further expand its footprint in nursing and health sciences, educating our students in a state-of-the-art clinical space while also providing critical healthcare services to our neighbors in the northern suburbs," said Regis College president Antoinette M. Hays, PhD, RN.

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EVENTS

Celebrate Women's History Month with Girls Leading Change

The following was submitted by the Network for Social Justice: To mark Women's History Month and International Women's Day in 2026, the Network for Social Justice is collaborating with club leaders from Winchester High School and members of the Community Health team from La Colaborativa in Chelsea and

March 4, 2026

NEWS

Winchester School Committee candidates bring contrasting backgrounds to Thursday forum

Two candidates for Winchester's School Committee will face voters at a forum as the district navigates a new literacy curriculum, budget pressures and questions about student mental health. Heather von Mering and John Bellaire are competing for an open seat on the School Committee, which oversees a budget von

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FEATURES

‘Chicago: Teen Edition’ dances onto the Winchester High School stage

By Talia Ho | Correspondent Fame. Fortune. And all that jazz. This spring, Winchester High School presents “Chicago: Teen Edition,” a bold musical that explores celebrity culture, media manipulation, and the cost of ambition. This iconic production is set in the 1920s. Performances will take place on March 13 and 14

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EVENTS

Ripley Chapel in Winchester presents ‘Syldason: You Are Welcome Here’

The following was submitted by the Ripley Chapel at First Congregational Church: On Friday, March 13, beginning at 7:30 p.m., live in-person and live streamed from the stunning Ripley Chapel at First Congregational Church, Winchester, 21 Church St., join in with Syldason, a duo concert featuring Sylvie Zakarian,

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